

Claims

1. A solid, oral tooth whitening composition comprising more than 75% by weight of solid materials, said composition comprising:

5

- (a) a chewing gum or confectionary base,
- (b) conventional chewing gum or confectionary additives,
- (c) a tooth whitening agent comprising calcium pyrophosphate present in an amount of between 0.5% and 9% by weight of the composition, excluding any coating

10 compositions.

2. The composition according to claim 1 in which said calcium pyrophosphate is present in an amount of between 3% and 8%, preferably between 4.5% and 7.5 %, even more preferably between 5,5% and 7 %, by weight of the composition,

15 excluding any coating compositions.

3. The composition according to claim 1 formulated as a chewing gum composition in which said gum base constitutes from 10% to 99%, particularly from 15% to 80%, preferably 25% to 60 % by weight of the composition.

20

4. The composition according to claim 1 in which said gum base comprises one or more of the following; natural or synthetic elastomeric compounds, natural or synthetic resin compounds, fillers, softening compounds, antioxidants and colorants.

5. The composition according to claim 1 formulated as a confectionary composition in which said confectionary base constitutes from 0% to 99%, particularly from 15% to 98%, preferably 30% to 97% by weight of the composition.

5 6. The composition according to any of the preceding claims in which said conventional chewing gum or confectionary additives comprise one or more of the following ingredients: sweeteners, high intensity sweeteners, taste enhancers, flavouring agents, colouring agents.

10 7. The composition according to any of the preceding claims in which said composition is essentially sugar-free.

8. The composition according to any of the preceding claims comprising one or more additional tooth whitening agents.

15 9. The composition according to claim 8 in which said additional tooth whitening agent(s) is/are present in between 0.01% and 10.0%, more particularly between 0.1 and 2.0%, preferably between 0.25% and 1.0% by weight of the composition, excluding any coating.

20 10. The composition according to claim 8 or 9 in which said additional tooth whitening agent comprises a bicarbonate salt.

11. The composition according to claim 10 in which said additional tooth whitening

agent comprises sodium bicarbonate, said agent being present in between 0.3% and 0.4% by weight of the compositions excluding any coating.

12. The composition according to any of the preceding claims in which said addi-

5 tives and/or tooth whitening agents are encapsulated.

13. The composition according to any of the preceding claims further comprising

one or more of the following: oral hygiene promoting agents, anti-calculus agents,

anti-microbial agents, anti-inflammatory agents, desensitising agents, therapeutically

10 active agents, remineralising agents.

14. The composition according to any of the preceding claims further comprising a

supplement.

15 15. The composition according to claim 14 in which said supplement comprises vi-

tamin C.

16. The composition according to claim 13 in which the oral hygiene promoting

agent comprises urea, said urea being present in between 0.15% and 25%, particu-

20 larly between 0.4% and 10%, preferably between 0.8% and 5%, even more prefera-

bly between 1.5 % and 2.5% by weight.

17. A use of a composition according to any of the preceding claims to whiten tooth surfaces.

18. A use of a composition according to claims 1-16 to whiten tooth surfaces, said tooth surfaces being discoloured after use of tobacco-related products.

5 19. A use of a composition according to any of the claims 1-16 to whiten tooth surfaces, said tooth surfaces being discoloured after use of coffee-related products.

20. A method of whitening tooth surfaces by consuming a solid, oral tooth whitening composition according to any of claims 1-16.

10

21. A method of whitening tooth surfaces by consuming a solid, oral tooth whitening composition according to claims 1-16, said tooth surfaces being discoloured after use of tobacco-related products.

15 22. A method of whitening tooth surfaces by consuming a solid, oral tooth whitening composition according to any of the claims 1-16, said tooth surfaces being discoloured after use of coffee-related products.